

Indiana Career Council – IWIS Taskforce Update

October 21, 2013

Meeting Updates

- Taskforce met on October 15th
- Two groups, Deloitte Consulting and Data Quality Campaign provided presentations to the taskforce
- Purpose to identify best practices for longitudinal data systems, explore possibility of enhancements to IWIS, and to understand how other states have approached the establishment, operation, and enhancement of similar systems

Deloitte Consulting

Background

- Nationwide organization that has multiple years of experience working with states on data needs
- Has worked with a number of other states on the development of a longitudinal data system – Deloitte provided a case study of its work with Pennsylvania in developing and maintaining the state’s longitudinal data system
- Has experience in privacy and data protection, analytics, education and workforce consulting, and economic competitiveness practice

Content/Recommendations

- Challenges identified by Deloitte in the development and maintenance of state longitudinal data systems included:
 - Ensuring that technology infrastructure is scalable to support data growth
 - Ensuring that the system protects and secures confidential and/or sensitive data
 - Establishing a governance structure for the system that facilitates decision-making, collaboration and coordination across multiple stakeholders, and supports the definition, security, availability, usability, and quality of data
- Key steps that were recommended included:
 - Identifying the key policy questions that IWIS should be able to address
 - Obtaining and maintaining executive buy-in and alignment
 - Identifying a consistent stream of funding
 - Developing and institutionalizing process that support program success
 - Socializing the value of IWIS
- Deloitte recommended that the Council seek a vendor that exhibits:
 - Deep knowledge of government education and workforce programs and data, corporate workforce planning and economic competitiveness

- Extensive analytics capabilities and experience, including predictive analytics
- Successful large scale systems implementation experience
- Data privacy and protection experience

Data Quality Campaign

Background

- Non-profit organization located in D.C., formed to encourage the usage of data by policy-makers when making decisions relative to education and workforce practices
- Has identified (and measures states by) ten actions for changing the culture regarding the collection and usage of data
 - Linkage between P-20/Workforce data systems
 - Creation of stable, sustained support
 - Development of governance structure
 - Building of data repositories
 - Provision of timely access to data
 - Creation of individual student progress reports
 - Creation of longitudinal reports
 - Development of a research agenda
 - Building of educator capacity to utilize data
 - Raising of awareness of available data
- In 2012, the Data Quality Campaign recognized Indiana (and IWIS) for having achieved 8 of these 10 steps
 - The Data Quality Campaign believes that Indiana is a state leader for longitudinal data systems, due in part to the inclusion of higher education and workforce development from the onset of IWIS

Content/Recommendations

- Development of longitudinal data systems should begin with identifying the key questions the system should be able to address, and ensuring that the questions are aligned with the state's policy objectives
- It is of key importance to establish the right governance structure for the system, including the right people with the authority to make necessary decisions and implement charges, and that will ensure that the structure is sustainable
- State should balance the access to information with the need to ensure privacy of data
- Provided examples of best practices from Maryland, Kentucky, and Washington

Initial Observations from Presentations

- Importance of establishing meaningful, sustainable governance structure for IWIS, ensuring that the right people are at the table
 - IWIS current governance structure consists of a voluntary memorandum of understanding between DWD, CHE, DOE, and IBRC
- Key step in process is determining what policy questions the system needs to address on a regular basis
- Communication plan/outreach must begin early to ensure understanding of IWIS, what data is included, how privacy/security is maintained, and how data will be utilized
- Neither group could report the usage of state longitudinal data systems to serve as a tool for the analytics of future workforce needs and long-term skill gap analyses

Next Steps

- Taskforce will meet twice before November meeting of Career Council
- State of Maryland staff joining taskforce at next meeting to share lessons learned from their development and operation of longitudinal data systems
- Taskforce will hear from a private sector group with expertise in providing predictive analytics for “big data”
- Taskforce will prepare and provide final report and recommendations to Career Council at November 18th meeting